

AO 91 (Rev. 5/85) Criminal Complaint

United States District Court

SOUTHERN

DISTRICT OF

TEXAS

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

v.

Amended
CRIMINAL COMPLAINT

AKA: Jovan GRACIA-Rios, YOB: 1999 USC

United States Courts
Southern District of Texas

CASE NUMBER: M-18-0467-M

FILED

March 03, 2018

David J. Bradley, Clerk of Court

I, the undersigned complainant being duly sworn state the following is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief. On or about 3/2/2018 in Starr county, in the Southern District of Texas defendant(s) did, (Track Statutory Language of Offense)

Knowingly and intentionally possess, with intent to distribute approximately 103.5 kilograms of marijuana, a Schedule I Controlled Substance under the Controlled Substance Act.

in violation of Title 21 United States Code, Section(s) 841 (a) (1)

I further state that I am a(n) DEA Special Agent and that this complaint is based on the following facts: See Attachment "A".

Continued on the attached sheet and made a part of this complaint: ☒ Yes ☐ No


Signature of Complainant
Erik Lambel, DEA Special Agent

Submitted by reliable electronic means, sworn to and attested to telephonically per Fed.R.Cr.P.4.1 and probable cause found on:

March 3, 2018

Date

At

McAllen, Texas

City and State

J. Scott Hacker, U.S. Magistrate Judge

Name & Title of Judicial Officer


Signature of Judicial Officer

Attachment A

On March 2, 2018, at approximately 11:00 A.M., United States Border Patrol (USBP) Agent Thomas Vincent responded to the area of Los Velas neighborhood in Rio Grande City, Texas following the Aerostat 4 operator observing bundles being loaded into the back of a tan Chevrolet Silverado pickup truck near the Rio Grande River. While Agent Vincent was responding to the area, Aerostat 4 operator relayed the truck was moving north along Los Velas road. At that time, Agent Thomas was traveling south along Los Velas road and observed the truck being pursued by additional USBP marked units. The truck made several turns while being pursued by USBP marked units until it eventually stopped near Highway 83. Agent Thomas approached the vehicle and observed the bundles in the bed of the truck. The driver, later identified as Jovan GRACIA-Rios, was taken into custody. GRACIA, the vehicle, and 16 bundles weighing approximately 103.5 kilograms, were transported to the Rio Grande City Border Patrol Station for processing.

On the same date, at approximately 2:00 P.M., DEA Special Agents (SA) Erik Lambel and Leonel Reyna responded to the USBP Rio Grande City Station to investigate this incident and were apprised of the details regarding this case. SA Lambel read GRACIA his Miranda Rights in his preferred language of English, as witnessed by SA Reyna. GRACIA stated he understood his rights and was willing to answer some questions. GRACIA stated at approximately 8:00 A.M. this morning, GRACIA's girlfriend told him (GRACIA) a guy in Mexico was looking for somebody to pick up approximately two (2) pounds of marijuana near the Rio Grande River. GRACIA agreed to go, and stated when he got to the location several men were waiting then started loading bundles into GRACIA's truck. GRACIA stated he was to be paid \$200 U.S. dollars. During the interview, GRACIA stated he "didn't think it was going to be that much". All questioning was stopped when GRACIA had no further information to provide.